

REP. KATE HOGAN'S SENIOR NEWS

Libraries Update



The American Library Association (ALA) recently released its State of America's Libraries 2021 Special Report: COVID-19, which includes information on how libraries are stepping up and responding to the impacts of the pandemic. The report found that:

- In 2020, public libraries loaned out 289 million e-books - that's a 40% increase from 2019

- Throughout 2020, librarians were fighting disinformation about COVID-19, the census, and the U.S. presidential election

Most importantly, the report found that libraries didn't shut down during the pandemic; rather, they found new ways to serve and continue supporting their communities – often at a distance. During times of crisis, libraries take pride in staying open as vital community centers. As ALA President Julius C. Jefferson, Jr. says, "Libraries kept Americans connected in ways that brought our communities closer. Buildings may not have been open, but libraries were never closed."

In Maynard, the staff at the Maynard Public Library continued to work even when the Library's doors were closed. Like many other libraries, Maynard Public Library offered curbside service, virtual programs, remote assistance, and take-and-make crafts. They also offered outdoor book browsing and virtual discussions of Maynard history.

The Library is open to visitors Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10 am-4 pm and Tuesday & Thursday from 1-8 pm. Curbside pickup and homebound delivery are available by request during open hours. September is Library Card Sign-Up Month. Updates on all of the Library's services and offerings are available online at: <https://www.maynardpubliclibrary.org/>.

Please support your local library, and when you do, thank the staff for their dedication to meeting the needs of our community!



Kate Hogan, State Representative

Proudly represents Bolton, Hudson, Maynard, and Stow

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